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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As my term as President of the Academy comes to an end, I once again want to express my appreciation to the membership for allowing me the opportunity to serve the organization. As I indicated in my earlier message, I believe that accounting history can play an integral role in accounting education and research in the decade of the 1990s. Hopefully, the activities of this year will serve to foster increased interaction between Academy members and others in academia and the profession who understand and appreciate the importance of accounting history.

While we may not have the funds to sponsor numerous conferences, the Academy can extend members' participation and interaction with other groups through joint sponsorship of conferences. Cooperation with the Center for International Education and Research at the University of Illinois resulted in an excellent conference in March. Registration for the AOS conference, cosponsored by the Academy and UNT, will bring Academy members from nine countries and thirty-two states together with postmodernist researchers to begin a dialogue about future directions of historical research. The CPE session at Toronto indicates the interest in historical research; the thirty-five participants examined a wide range of issues. The session generated many interesting suggestions for future research. The quality of the history papers at the annual meeting indicates the renewal of interest and perhaps "coming of age" of accounting history. We have the opportunity to make a significant contribution to accounting research; I hope that 1990 marks the beginning of a decade when the Academy becomes proactive in this effort.

I would like to thank each of the



volunteers who served on committees or task forces this year. Since we were at the beginning of a new decade, the charges to the chairs of many of the committees reflected long range plans in the areas of education and research. The committees' and task forces' recommendations will be presented at the key members' meeting in November and should provide an excellent basis for expanding the services of the Academy to its members in the 1990s. I also would like to express my appreciation to the officers and trustees, who have been so supportive of the programs that have been initiated this year. Their hard work ensures the necessary continuity to implement long range plans in order to meet the need of our membership.

As I reflect on the opportunities that I have had to speak with many of you at various conferences or AAA meetings this year, I am encouraged by the enthusiasm and excitement of our members. From my pragmatic perspective, I believe that we can use our historical knowledge in a proactive manner to improve and enrich accounting education and research in order to prepare accountants to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century.

Barbara D. Merino